I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

Co-operation

Rate of interest payable to local bodies on fixed deposits by co-operative central banks.

* 1769 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Registrar of Co-operative Societies has issued a circular that interest payable to local bodies on fixed deposits by co-operative central banks should not exceed 4 per cent irrespective of the fact that such deposits relate to provident fund accumulations, advances from contractors or railway funds ;

(*b*) whether the rate fixed by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies is determined irrespective of the rates prevailing in the money market ;

(*c*) at what rates loans are advanced by the co-operative central banks to rural societies ;

(*d*) whether the district central banks are permitted to pay interest up to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on deposits from private persons ;

(*e*) whether the rate charged by Madras Central Urban Bank on loans advanced to district central banks is not higher than 4 per cent ; and if so, how much ; and

(*f*) whether any representation has been made by any local board with regard to the low rates of interest fixed by the Registrar in respect of the deposits of local bodies ?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The rates vary from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to $8\frac{1}{4}$ per cent ; the rate commonly prevailing now is $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The Madras Central Urban Bank lends at 6 to 7 per cent to district central banks. The ordinary rate, however, is 6 per cent.

(*f*) Yes.

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister for Development the object with which the Registrar issued the circular ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" I will at once state, Sir, that in view of the fact that I have had many representations from various members on the subject, I will go into the matter with the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and arrive at a satisfactory solution of the subject."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" Am I prevented from putting further supplementary questions in view of this answer ? "

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"It means that the Minister does not want to commit himself to more than what he has stated."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—"May I know, Sir, whether the Registrar fixed this rate at the request of the societies and banks concerned or is it an unnecessary interference on his part?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"Notice."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—"May I know, Sir, whether it is the object of the Government to discourage local bodies from investing their funds in co-operative central banks by offering only 4 per cent to them while they allow the banks to pay $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to private persons?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is argumentative."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"May I know from the hon. the Minister whether this rate of 4 per cent was due to the fact that the banks have huge surpluses?"

The hon. Mr. M. R SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"Possibly so, Sir."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"Why should the local bodies alone be penalized, Sir?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—"The policy is not to penalize the local bodies."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"Are not the Local Bodies prevented from investing their funds in banks other than Co-operative banks and the Imperial Bank?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"That is asking for an opinion."

Education

Recruitment of Junior Deputy Inspectors of Schools.

* 1770 Q.—Mr. C. S. GOVINDARAJA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of Junior Deputy Inspectors of Schools;

(*b*) the number of secondary grade assistants appointed as Junior Deputy Inspectors;

(*c*) whether the posts of Junior Deputy Inspectors are mainly intended to be filled up by senior men in the cadre of secondary-grade assistants;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that fresh graduates possessing the B.A. and L.T. degrees with no previous experience selected by the Staff Selection Board are appointed as Junior Deputy Inspectors superseding the claims of secondary-grade assistants with many years' service to their credit;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that male secondary-grade assistants are started on Rs. 35 a month, the ordinary clerk's pay, although they possess the additional professional qualifications; and

(*f*) whether there is any proposal in the reorganization of the Education Department to give the same pay to male secondary assistants as to women secondary-grade assistants?

A.—(*a*) 108.
(*b*) 69.
(*c*) No.